

2010-2011 School/Day Care Requirement Questions

School Requirements

Tdap

Does my 8th grade student need Tdap, even if he's had a dose of Td at age 11–12 years?

Yes, if it has been 2 years or more since their last dose of Td.

No, if it has been less than 2 years since their last dose of Td.

Does my 8th grade student need another Tdap, even if he's had a dose over two years ago?

No, if student has received Tdap at age 11-12 or thereafter. Tdap is licensed for only one dose, so the student will not need another dose of Tdap.

Is there a specific point we should use to determine if the student is in compliance?

The day school begins should be used as the point in time for assessing compliance. However, those students who will pass the 2 year mark since having received a Td vaccine should be tracked during the year and appropriate reminders given to receive the Tdap vaccine.

At what point in time does the 2 year period begin for assessing compliance of students who have received Td?

The two year period begins the day the student received the Td vaccine.

Must students needing their 10-year booster receive Tdap instead of Td?

Students in grades 9-12 are not required to receive Tdap for their 10-year booster at this time, but are highly advised to do so, especially if they are in contact with an infant younger than age 12 months or live in a community where pertussis is occurring.

A rule change is being proposed to require persons aged 13 through 18 years who have not received Tdap to receive a dose 2 years after the last Td dose.

What schedule should be used to vaccinate 8th grade students who have never received the primary series of tetanus toxoid-containing vaccine?

Adolescents (between 10 years of age through 18 years of age) who have never received tetanus-containing vaccines, or whose vaccination history is unknown, should receive the 3-dose series. In this age group, the ACIP catch-up schedule recommends Tdap for dose #1, followed 4 weeks later by Td for dose #2, followed at least 6 months later by Td for dose #3. Tdap can substitute for only one of the 3 Td doses in the series.

What is the Tdap requirement for an incoming 8th grade student who had a pertussis exemption as a child?

The student will need a signed medical exemption if there isn't one on file. Another Td dose will not be necessary unless the student has passed the interval for another dose being needed.

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Polio

Why was the statement “Maximum needed four (4) doses” removed from the Polio requirements?

In summer 2009, ACIP updated its recommendations for use of inactivated poliovirus vaccines (IPV) partly in response to the availability of newer combination vaccines (e.g. Pentacel) that include an IPV component. ACIP now recommends that children receive at least 1 dose of IPV at age 4 through 6 years, even if they have previously received 4 doses or more. The interval between the next-to-last and last dose should be at least 6 months. This means that some children may receive a total of 4 doses or more, a practice ACIP considers acceptable.

Does the new ACIP recommendations for IPV affect all grades or just incoming kindergarten students?

The 2010 IPV change only affects the incoming kindergarten students.

Varicella

If a kindergarten student has had no varicella immunizations, what is the minimum interval between dose 1 and dose 2?

The ACIP recommendations indicate 3 months. An In-progress card is acceptable for this 3-month interval.

Will kindergarten students who have had chickenpox disease that was not confirmed by a doctor need varicella shots to begin school?

Yes. Beginning with the 2010-2011 school year, documentation of chickenpox by a parent will no longer be accepted as proof of disease for kindergarten students. Incoming kindergarten students will also need two doses of varicella vaccine.

Would it be acceptable for a Nurse Practitioner to provide a statement that a kindergarten student has had chickenpox disease?

For the 2010-2011 school year the school rule indicates only a licensed doctor of medicine (MD) or doctor of osteopathy (DO) can provide the written documentation of chickenpox disease. However, a rule change is being proposed to widen the scope to include physicians and their designees.

Is a rubber stamp signature acceptable? Is a faxed document that has been signed by a licensed doctor of medicine (MD) or doctor of osteopathy (DO) acceptable?

Yes, the superintendent or designee may accept a faxed written statement from the office of a licensed doctor of medicine (MD) or doctor of osteopathy (DO), containing a rubber stamp signature.

Are parental signed statements that have the date of chickenpox disease documented acceptable for grades 1 through 5?

Yes, the rule change only affects incoming kindergarten students.

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Is the new varicella requirement of physician documentation for proof of varicella disease only for newly enrolled children in day care or preschool?

Yes, effective July 1, 2010, all children registering for day care or preschool as new enrollees should have on file a written statement by the physician documenting proof of disease. Day care and preschool providers are encouraged to check all enrollees for this physician documentation of proof of disease as this documentation will be needed for kindergarten entry.

If a child does not receive their first Hib until they are 2 years old, are they required to receive 3 doses of Hib?

If Hib is administered according to the ACIP schedule children should have 3 doses by the time they are 2 years old. However, the number of doses necessary to be up-to-date is determined by the vaccine product and the age of the child when the series was started. ACIP does not recommend routine Hib vaccination of healthy children 59 months of age or older, even if they have no prior history of Hib vaccination. The child should be age appropriately immunized for Hib.

If a child does not receive their first Pneumococcal (PCV) until they are 2 years old, are they required to receive 4 doses of PCV?

If PCV is administered according to the ACIP schedule children should have 4 doses by the time they are 2 years old. The number of doses a child needs to complete the series depends on the age the child begins the series. PCV is not routinely recommended for healthy persons older than 59 months of age.

1st dose given	Number of doses needed
7-11 months	3
12-23 months	2
24-59 months	1

ACIP recommends an additional dose of PCV13 be given to a child under the age of five (5) who received four (4) doses of PCV7. Children 24 through 71 months of age, with health risk factors, should follow the special PCV recommendations from the ACIP.

Is the new Pneumococcal requirement only for newly enrolled children in day care or preschool?

Yes, this requirement will be effective for all children registering for day care or preschool as new enrollees on or after July 1, 2010.